The Vertuous MAID's RESOLUTION: OR, The two Honeſt LOVERS.

Shewing what Unconſtant Men there be,
That uſe Deceit and Flattery;
They'll cog, diſſemble, ſwear and lye,
A Harmleſs MAIDEN's Life to try;
To all ſuch Lovers ſhe'll be coy,
And ſaye, *My Freedom's all my Joy.*

To the Tune of, *I am a poor and harmleſs Maid*, &c.

BIBLIOTHECA BODLEIANA OXONIENSIS

IN a melancholly paſſion I
was walking by a river ſide,
A gallant Damſel I did eſpy,
a lute ſhe had lay by her ſide,
Which up ſhe took and did ſing and play,
That in her freedom was all her joy,
O in my freedom's all my joy.

I ſtept aſide, becauſe I'd hear
the full concluſion of her ſong,
Her muſick ravish'd ſo mine ear,
as on the ground I lay along,
Then did ſhe ſweetly play,
O in my freedom's all my joy.

I am a young and harmleſs Maid,
and ſome are pleas'd to ſtile me fair,
There's no Man yet hath ambuſh laid,
to catch me, but I break the ſnare:
Tho' ſome they count me nice and coy,
Yet in my freedom's all my joy.

If young Men have alluring words,
poor City Maidens to betray,
Such compliments they can afford,
that we can hardly ſay them nay:
But let them term me nice and coy,
O in my freedom's all my joy.

With oaths and proteſtations great,
ſometimes they ſeek to ply their will,
When all the while they mean deceit,
for to obtain their wanton will:
And ſeek their utmoſt to deſtroy,
Our utmoſt and our chiefeſt joy.

With amorous words and ſpeeches fair,
they'll promiſe that they ne'r will do,
But of ſuch Souldiers I'll beware,
for fear I afterwards ſhould rue:
Tho' they count me nice and coy,
Yet in my freedom's all my joy,
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[redacted]

Alluring baits alas they have,
as fiddles, [illegible], and rings,
With gaudy, fearful, and gawdy brave,
and many other fatal things:
But thou dost never prove the worse for me,
For in my freedom's all my joy.

Whatsoever they give, take, or say,
I'll ne'r believe them e'er in a wave.
Their smoothing words shall not me betray,
I'll stand to what I said before.
Although they court me nice and coy, &c.

Yet I could quickly be in love,
if I an honest Woman did find,
That would me true and constant prove
and not be wandring like the wind;
A little time I will be coy, &c.

Were in this second Part you find,
a Husband pleasing to her mind;
This virtuous Maid hath one begun'd,
though long at last her love was gain'd,
She saith her freedom she'll obey,
And in his love shall be her joy.

And thus she did conclude her Song,
which ended soon, I up did rise,
My heart was struck with love so strong,
her beauty dazled both mine eyes,
My freedom then I no ways prize,
For in her love was all my joy.

When she slipp'd me where I was
she rose and would no longer stay,
I crept unto her because
my heart for love with her away:
Fair Maid, said I, do not destroy
My freedom, and my chiefest joy.

She blushing then, to me did say,
I do desire no company.
Fair Maid, said I, O stay a while,
to hear what means we flatter:
You have my heart, O be not coy,
In you is all my earthly joy.

Sweet heart, said I, few words I use,
but what I speak is from my heart,
I long have time to abuse,
then grant me love or I depart:
Your freedom I will not destroy,
For in your love is all my joy.

With that she took me by the hand,
and led me up by the river side,
If that you true and constant prove,
quoth she, verily I'll be your Bride.
Then on her lute playing and shy,
Be constant, and I'll be thy joy.

I then made bold to crave a kiss,
which modestly she to me gave,
I took it for a promising bliss,
her comely carriage was so brave:
I thought it long to see the day,
Wherein I might my Love enjoy.

[redacted]

[redacted]

Nature beyond all beauty gave,
[redacted]
For constant love to be thy joy.

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